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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliar has stated that it affects the consumers and it is because the proper quality of salt is not made available to them when it is sold by measure. Merchants are not interested in improving the quality of salt because when it is sold by measure, merchants and producers do not worry about the quality. Good quality salt is more dense and if it is sold by weight, then the merchants will be interested in preparing the proper quality of salt."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" What are the reasons which weighed with the Government in reverting to the weight system? I know that the merchant community was not at all consulted before embarking upon the new system of sale by weight and that due publicity was not given to it with the result that the public had no say in the matter at all."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is no question of reverting. The method now adopted is selling by measure. We want weight to be adopted in future. So, there is no question of reverting to weight."

[* 1306 Q.—" Answered with starred question No. 1284."]

*Amount of taxes and fees due to municipalities allowed to become time-barred.*

* 1307 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the total amount of taxes and fees due to municipalities on 31st March 1953 that were allowed to become time-barred without any coercive steps prescribed in the Act having been taken?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" The Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has reported that taxes and fees aggregating to Rs. 2,19,388-0-5 on 31st March 1953 were allowed to become time-barred in all the sixty-one municipalities in the State without the coercive steps prescribed in the Act having been taken for their realization."

*Provision of sanitary amenities to the slums in the City.*

* 1308 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) the amount spent by the Director of Harijan Welfare for the provision of sanitary amenities to the slums in the City during the year 1952;

(b) why the Government issued instructions to the Director of Harijan Welfare directing him not to proceed with providing sanitary amenities in the Government slums;

(c) whether the Corporation of Madras is providing sanitary amenities in the Government slums;

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(*d*) what are the Government slums for which the Corporation of Madras is not providing sanitary amenities; and

(*e*) what was the amount that the Corporation of Madras spent for sanitary amenities in the Government slums during the year 1952?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) Rs. 42,043.

" (*b*) The Government are not bound to provide civic amenities in Government slums under the provisions of section 218 of the Madras City Municipal Act as in the case of private individuals. It is the responsibility of the Corporation of Madras to provide such amenities in the slums.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) The names of the slums are the following :—

(1) Tondiar Kuppam.
(2) Coronation Nagar.
(3) Kasipuram.
(4) Lime Kiln Hutting Ground, Cochrane Basin Road.
(5) Kalyanapuram.
(6) Grey Nagar Pallam.
(7) Kasi Modu Cheri.
(8) Thakur Nagar.
(9) Meenambal Sivaraj Nagar, Egmore.
(10) Asirvathapuram.
(11) Magistrate Dosspuram, Chetput.
(12) Pushpanagar and Kannarajapuram.
(13) Namasivayapuram.
(14) Government Channel Lane Hutting Ground.
(15) Lock Nagar.
(16) Ayodia Kuppam.
(17) Slaterpuram (part).
(18) Rutherfordpuram or Meenambalpuram.
(19) Nochikuppam.
(20) Canal Bund.
(21) Mallipu Cheri.
(22) Austin Nagar.

" (*e*) Rs. 4,41,157-12-8."

SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMI PILLAI :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister how far he has tried to exploit the provisions of the Madras City Slum Improvement Act to provide amenities to the slum-dwellers? "

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Director of Harijan Welfare is taking keen interest in this and he is attending to some of the improvements that are necessary."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that provision of amenities to slum-dwellers is the responsibility of the Corporation of Madras, may I know from him what his experience as Mayor of Madras was in this matter and how many times he approached the Madras Government for aid?

" With the experience that he had as Mayor, does he think that the answers that he has just now given are in consonance with the policy that he adopted as Mayor? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I knew my limitations as Mayor of Madras and my demands on the Government of Madras were quite reasonable."

*Allegations against the Sub-Inspector, Payyoli, Malabar.*

* 1309 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Chief Minister has received a memorandum during his tour in Malabar from Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar, M.L.A., regarding the alleged corruption and bribery of the Police Sub-Inspector of Payyoli, Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) (The memorandum was sent to the Inspector-General of Police for enquiry and report.) The matter was personally enquired into by the District Superintendent of Police, Malabar, and the allegations against the Sub-Inspector were not substantiated. The Sub-Inspector has however been transferred to Mannarghat."

*Enhancement of the salaries of village officers in South Arcot district.*

* 1310 *Q.*—SRI A. MUTHUSWAMY (on behalf of Sri M. Kattimuthu) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether many petitions have been received by the Government from the year 1952 onwards from the village officers of South Arcot district, regarding the enhancement of their salaries; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."